

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**RONALD J. TENPAS
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

July 26, 2005

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that NATHAN MOORE, age 30, and NATASHA MOORE, age 31, both of Grover, Missouri, were sentenced Friday in U.S. District Court in East Saint Louis, Illinois. NATHAN MOORE and NATASHA MOORE previously pled guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud. NATHAN MOORE was sentenced to 41 months imprisonment and ordered to pay more than \$130,000 in restitution to victims. NATASHA MOORE was sentenced to 33 months' imprisonment and was also ordered to pay more than \$130,000 in restitution to victims.

The conspiracy took place between March 2003 and August 2003 in St. Clair County, Illinois. NATHAN MOORE and NATASHA MOORE engaged in a scheme in which they acquired corporate credit accounts from internet retailers by using fictitious business names and false credit references. Phone numbers provided for credit references were actually for cell phones owned by the MOOREs. Retailers who checked the credit references supplied by the MOOREs unknowingly were actually speaking with NATHAN or NATASHA MOORE. The MOOREs obtained merchandise such as DVD's, books, electronic equipment, and other goods and did not pay for them. The MOOREs then re-sold the merchandise, often using internet auction sites.

The investigation was conducted by the United States Postal Inspection Service in St. Louis, Missouri. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kevin Burke.